Application Serial No: 10/550,836
Responsive to the Office Action mailed on: February 21, 2008

IN THE CLAIMS

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A collapsible lens barrel whose lens group is advanced when an image is captured, the collapsible lens barrel comprising:

a driving frame for driving the lens group, comprising a cam pin and a demating prevention pin;

a cam frame comprising a cam groove and a demating prevention groove that mate with the cam pin and the demating prevention pin, respectively; and

a first protrusion provided on at least one side in an optical axis direction of a portion of the demating prevention groove with which the demating prevention pin mates when the driving frame is advanced;

wherein, in a state where the lens group has been advanced, the demating prevention pin contacts the first protrusion to prevent the cam pin from demating from the cam groove.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) A collapsible lens barrel whose lens group is advanced when an image is captured and whose lens group is retracted when the image is not captured, the collapsible lens barrel comprising:

a driving frame for driving the lens group, comprising a cam pin and a demating prevention pin;

a cam frame comprising a cam groove and a demating prevention groove that mate with the cam pin and the demating prevention pin, respectively;

a first protrusion provided on at least one side in an optical axis direction of a portion of the demating prevention groove with which the demating prevention pin mates when the driving frame is advanced; and

a second protrusion provided on at least one side in the optical axis direction of a portion of the demating prevention groove with which the demating prevention pin mates when the driving frame is retracted;

wherein, in a state where the lens group has been advanced, the demating prevention pin contacts the first protrusion to prevent the cam pin from demating from the cam groove, and

in a state where the lens group has been retracted, the demating prevention pin contacts the second protrusion to prevent the cam pin from demating from the cam groove.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) A collapsible lens barrel whose lens group is retracted when an image is not captured, the collapsible lens barrel comprising:

a driving frame for driving the lens group, comprising a cam pin;

a cam frame comprising a cam groove that mates with the cam pin; and

a protrusion provided on at least an object side in an optical axis direction of a portion of the cam groove with which the cam pin mates when the driving frame is retracted;

wherein, in a state where the lens group has been retracted, the cam pin contacts the protrusion to prevent the cam pin from demating from the cam groove.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) A collapsible lens barrel whose lens group is entirely retracted in a camera main body when an image is not captured, the collapsible lens barrel comprising:

a driving frame for driving the lens group, comprising a cam pin;

a cam frame comprising a cam groove that mates with the cam pin; and

a protrusion provided on at least an object side in an optical axis direction of a portion of the cam groove with which the cam pin mates when the driving frame is retracted on a side of an imaging element with respect to a portion of the camera main body projecting farthest to the object side in the optical axis direction;

wherein, in a state where the lens group has been entirely retracted in the camera main body, the cam pin contacts the protrusion to prevent the cam pin from demating from the cam groove.